

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for driving a display panel, ~~wherein~~ in which a common electrode and a discrete electrode are connected to ~~[[each]]~~ one of plural display cells arranged in a matrix form, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) supplying said common electrode with a reset pulse opposite in polarity to a display pulse, the reset pulse for inversion of charges stored on said common electrode;

(b) supplying said common electrode with a first single-step pulse of the same polarity as said display pulse;

(c) applying an initialization sequence voltage is applied to the common electrode, then a said display pulse for display operation is applied to the common electrode[[,]]; and

(d) applying a control voltage for controlling a discharge period in each display cell is applied to said discrete electrode to thereby control a gaseous discharge in [[each]] said one of plural display [[cell,]] cells

~~said initialization sequence comprising the steps of:~~

~~(a) supplying said common electrode with a reset pulse opposite in polarity to said display pulse for the inversion of charges stored on the said electrode; and~~

~~(b) supplying said common electrode with a single step pulse of the same polarity as that of said display pulse.~~

Claim 2 (Original): The display panel driving method according to claim 1, wherein said step (b) is performed twice in succession.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The display panel driving method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~width~~ duration of said reset pulse is equal to or smaller than 5 μ s.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~A method for driving a display panel wherein a common electrode and a discrete electrode are connected to each of plural display cells arranged in a matrix form, an initialization sequence voltage is applied to the common electrode, then a display pulse for display operation is applied to the common electrode, and a control voltage for controlling a discharge period in each display cell is applied to the discrete electrode to thereby control a gaseous discharge in each display cell, said initialization sequence comprising the steps of:~~

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~~(a) supplying said common electrode with a reset pulse opposite in polarity to said display pulse for the inversion of charges stored on the said electrode; and~~

~~(b) supplying said common electrode with a dual step pulse whose second step pulse rises within 1 μ s after the rise of its first step pulse~~

The display panel driving method according to claim 1, wherein step (b) further comprises supplying a second single-step pulse, of the same polarity as said display pulse, to the common electrode within 1 μ s after the rise of first single-step pulse.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A method for driving a display panel, in which ~~wherein~~ a common electrode and a discrete electrode are connected to ~~[[each]]~~ one of plural display cells arranged in a matrix form, the method comprising the steps of:

applying a display pulse for display operation is applied to the common electrode~~[[,~~
~~and]]~~ ;

applying a control voltage for controlling a discharge period in each display cell is
applied to the discrete electrode to thereby control a gaseous discharge in [[each]] said one of
plural display cell, in which: cells; and
a period for transferring data, for controlling a the discharge period of the gaseous
discharge in said one of plural [[each]] display [[cell]] cells, to a drive circuit of the discrete
electrode ~~is set in the period during which~~ substantially when no voltage is applied to the
common electrode.

figs 10, 11

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The display panel driving method according to claim
5, wherein a voltage of the display pulse is a pulse whose voltage rises in two steps, and the
application of the control voltage to the discrete electrode is started ~~at timing~~ following the
rise of [[the]] a first-step voltage of said display pulse and preceding the rise of [[the]] a
second-step voltage.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method for driving a display panel, in which
~~wherein~~ a common electrode and a discrete electrode are connected to [[each]] one of plural
display cells arranged in a matrix form, ~~by the following sequences:~~ the method comprising
the steps of:

- (a) applying an initialization sequence voltage to the common electrode;
- (b) applying a display pulse ~~for display operation~~ to the common electrode to perform
a gaseous discharge of [[each]] said display cell; and
- (c) controlling a ~~gaseous discharge period of~~ the gaseous discharge in said one of
plural [[each]] display [[cell]] cells by controlling [[the]] a period in which to apply [[a]] said
display pulse ~~for display operation~~ to the common electrode and in which to apply a
discharge suppression pulse to the discrete electrode.

figs 13, 14

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The display panel driving method according to claim 7, wherein a stabilization period in which not to apply voltages to both of the common electrode and the discrete electrode is set between ~~the sequences~~ at least one of the steps (a) and (b), or between the sequences and the steps (b) and (c).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~The display driving method according to claim 7, A~~
method for driving a display panel, in which a common electrode and a discrete electrode are connected to one of plural display cells arranged in a matrix form, the method comprising the steps of:

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(a) removing charges that trigger an unintended discharge of the one of plural display cells during a stabilization period in which voltages are not applied to either the common electrode or the discrete electrode;

(b) applying a display pulse to the common electrode to perform a gaseous discharge of said display cell; and

(c) controlling a period of the gaseous discharge in said one of plural display cells by controlling a period in which to apply said display pulse to the common electrode and in which to apply a discharge suppression pulse to the discrete electrode

~~wherein the sequence is replaced with a stabilization period in which not to apply voltages to the common electrode and the discrete electrode.~~

Claim 10 (New): The display panel driving method according to claim 1, wherein a ratio of a first duration, from a termination of said display pulse to a start of said reset pulse, to a second duration, of said reset pulse, is approximately 3:1.

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Claim 11 (New): The display panel driving method according to Claim 4, wherein in step (b), the second single-step pulse falls within 1 μ s after a falling of the first single-step pulse.
